



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY  
EDGAR SNOWDEN.  
SATURDAY EVENING, JANUARY 18.

While Judge Hughes, in his recent letter on the State debt, presents the side of the anti-fundamental in its best possible light, our opinions on that question are unchanged, for the facts relating to it remain the same. The funding act was not passed by an illegal or irresponsible body, but by the people of the State, through their fairly chosen representatives. It was the act of the State in its sovereign capacity, and possessed all the authority for its enforcement that it was possible for the State to confer upon it. If people could not rely upon it they could place reliance on no other act of the General Assembly of Virginia. If Judge Hughes' idea be correct, such a thing as borrowing money upon the pledged revenues of a State to pay the interest, and a sinking fund to pay the principal, would be impossible, for no man would lend money to a State in which laws impairing the obligation of contracts could be enforced, and in which the theory was recognized that the provisions made for repayment by any one Legislature could be repudiated by a succeeding one. It must also be remembered that but for the repeal by a subsequent Legislature of the acts ancillary to the funding bill, such for instance as those providing for the sale of the public works and other property of the State, at that time exceedingly valuable, and the proceeds of which would have materially reduced the State's indebtedness, and made a tax of fifty cents on the hundred dollars amply sufficient to pay the interest, but which now are so worthless that a majority of the people of the State are anxious to give them away to anybody who will use them, it is more than probable all the present trouble would have been averted. Then, too, we cannot agree that the legality and binding force of the funding bill is a legislative and not a judicial question, for we cannot forget that the distinguishing feature of this government—at least so intended by its founders—is not, as some suppose, that the mere will of the majority is supreme, but that the rights of one single man shall not be infringed, even at the desire of all his fellow citizens combined, and that, for that reason, the judiciary is authorized to pass upon the acts of both the executive and legislative branches of the government. The creditors of the State lent their money under the provisions of a law guarded with all the sanctity it was possible for the people thereof, and they have a right to demand that the provisions of that law shall be complied with. In consideration, however, of the embarrassed condition of the finances of the State, attributable in no slight degree to the repeal of those acts intended to facilitate the operation of the funding bill, to which we have alluded, they have agreed to abate one-third of the interest due them, and when certain people in the State raise the question as to the justice of their demands it is decision must be left to the Courts and not to the Legislature.

That there ought to be a trans-continental railroad through the southern section of the United States no true friend of the South, or of the country, has any doubt. The North has two. The South should certainly have one. The whole country should have three, in order to break up the monopoly now enforced by the combination of those in the North. But so great is the difference of opinion regarding the advantages of certain routes for the proposed southern road, among southern members of Congress, and so opposed are some of them to appropriations by the general government for any such purpose, notwithstanding the fact that the prosperity of the North is partially attributable to just such appropriations, that it is extremely doubtful whether a bill to aid a southern Pacific road will be passed at this session of Congress. In a scintilla article on this subject the Louisville Evening Post says: "If Bourbonism in the South was dead a southern Pacific railroad would not have failed. But we are represented in Congress by too many narrow minded, vain glorious egotists, who know nothing whatever of practical statesmanship. The real interests of the South depend on hard money, free trade, education, local government, a southern Pacific road, and the honest payment of its debts. When these things are realized there will be a marvelous change in the complexion of the southern delegation in Congress, and the people will care very little whether or not it is solidly democratic."

The Teller committee now in New Orleans is still grinding out its tales of outrage and intimidation from the grist it purchases at cheap rates from the ignorant and easily influenced negroes, and from that supplied it willingly by the more selfish and maliciously disposed scalawags and carpet baggers. No matter what may be the character of its report, the people of the North can rest assured that if it be proved any ball dozing has been attempted, none will be more willing to have the laws vindicated and the offenders punished than the fellow citizens of the South. That voters in the South have been influenced by the same means that notoriously influence those in the North is doubtless true, and no more criminality should attach to one section than to another. Both should be punished alike. The South will oppose no objection to the infliction of the deserved penalty upon those of her citizens who may be found guilty. Will the punishment of similar offenders in the North meet with as little objection from the people of that section?

A fire broke out on North street, New York city, about eight o'clock last night and destroyed three buildings involving a loss of about \$4,000,000, on which there was a large insurance.

## LETTER FROM RICHMOND.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]  
RICHMOND, Jan. 17.—While no matter of special interest was before either branch of the General Assembly to-day, a large amount of business was transacted. Local bills were sent flying along the calendar out of their order, and passed. This thing was taking up much of the time of the House—that is suspending the rules and taking bills up out of their regular order. They were generally local bills. About half-past one o'clock Mr. Henry, of Richmond, protested against this suspension of the rules, but the rules were suspended. Then General Echols objected to the further suspension, but the rules were suspended again.

The Richmond and Alleghany Railroad bill was again postponed, this time until Monday. Mr. Hunter, the game man, takes a pride in protecting game, and whenever anything is said upon that subject, he rises in his seat with more than legislative solemnity. Mr. White, of Hanover, offered a bill a few days since for the protection of game, which in substance allows any one to hunt and trap on his own land. The Committee on Game had this bill before them to-day, and reported it adversely, and brought in a bill directly in opposition to it. Mr. Hunter happened not to be present when the bill came up, and Mr. White rose and made an earnest speech, in which he moved that the bill be dismissed. The motion prevailed, and the bill was dismissed.

Mr. White is seventy-five years old; never had a chill in his life, and never paid a doctor's bill. He is the oldest man in the Legislature. But age does not seem to tell on him. It may be that Mr. Harrison, of Rockingham, who is seventy years of age, had something like a desire to excel his brother member in activity. At any rate he did not seem to be in the least lessened by age. He was playing with some children in the dining room at the Valentine house, and exhibited much activity. A bystander remarked that he was an active man for his age. Then Mr. Harrison with a spirit of emulation, burning in his breast like that which scorched N. Bonaparte and U. Grant, made a further exhibition of his ability to do more formidable things than the average of his fellow members. He attempted to perform that difficult feat of jumping up and cracking his heels together. He left the floor with considerable upward tendency. He proceeded upward, heavenward, and might have reached the ceiling, but the top of his head met with considerable opposition from the barbed point of the gas chandelier, and he did not go up any higher, and he came down faster than he went up—all in a heap. To-day he was in his seat and a big white patch rested on his head.

It is said that a member of the House from a mountain district is preparing a bill which the members from the oyster districts think will be destructive to the oyster industry. The committee on Chesapeake and its tributaries which has this subject in charge met this morning, but as there were few of the gentlemen present with their propositions the committee adjourned until Monday morning.

Modjeska appears at the theatre Tuesday and Wednesday nights, in "Camille" and "Frou Frou." She will have the largest house of the season.

More onslaughts on the Moffett register. Mr. McCall, of Pulaski, offered in the House to-day a resolution looking to the expediency of abolishing the Moffett Liquor Law and providing for a specific license tax. The Senate has also upon the table a bill looking to this end.

I heard a Senator say that the Senate would never vote to abolish the Moffett Register as it was very evident that a majority of the members were against it.

In some of the towns the delegates report that the people will prefer the abolition of the Moffett Register and the imposition of a large specific tax.

## A Haunted House.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]  
RICHMOND, Jan. 17.—A strange story is told here to the effect that the parsonage occupied by the Rev. Moses D. Hoge, of the Presbyterian Church, and situated on the corner of Main and Fifth streets, is haunted. De Hoge it is stated has the utmost difficulty in keeping servants. They come and stay one month and see the mysterious apparition and hear the hurrying light and then they leave, nor do they wait long for wages. The house was built and occupied for years by Major Gibbons, a distinguished officer in the colonial army. After the revolutionary war he lived there in hard times. About the hour of midnight a figure robed in white walks with solemn step through the hall and vanishes noiselessly. It is said by those who claim to have seen it to be the figure of a lady. And that as the figure proceeds by a deep drawn sigh is heard, which proceeds from the back parlor in the house. Such is the strange tale which the afflicted servants tell. It is strange that servants come there from a distance who have never heard of the traditions of the house, and upon the first night see the same figure. They all tell the same story. The figure can not be traced to any authentic source but many have heard the deep drawn sigh which proceeds from the back parlor. Upon going into the parlor nothing is seen or heard, but immediately upon going out in the passage the sigh is heard again. It is only heard about the hour of twelve o'clock at night. It is attributed to some strange acoustic property of the room.

## The Auditor and the Public Schools.

The Auditor has replied to Senator Spiller's resolution as to "why he paid the interest on the bonds held by schools and colleges," and did not set apart a sufficient sum for public school purposes. He says:

1. I know of no revenue assessed and collected for school purposes outside of that assessed and collected under the general law relating to the assessment of property and the collection of that tax thereon, one d. h. of which the statute provides shall be applied to schools.  
2. A tax of five cents in the hundred dollars value of property has been the rate imposed thereon since the adoption of the present Constitution, and out of the proceeds of this tax the schools are to be paid.  
3. On the 20th of March, 1871, an act was passed authorizing the issuance of certain coupons receivable in payment of "all taxes, debts, dues, and demands due to the State." Now so far as these coupons were received in payment of taxes, there was necessarily a corresponding falling-off in the receipt of currency.  
4. The rate of tax at 50 cents, as before stated, did not yield the amount of revenue sufficient to defray the expenses of Government, support the inmates in the State asylums, prisoners in the penitentiary, &c., and pay to the schools their full quota.  
5. The insufficiency of the supply of currency which was required to discharge these obligations rendered it impossible for me to pay to the schools in full without virtually suspending the operations of the Government and necessitating the discharge, to a great extent, of the unfortunate inmates of our asylums as well as the prisoners confined in the penitentiary and jails of the State.  
6. I know of no order of priority which required me to pay to the schools their full quota in currency first and then to all other objects their relative share of the residue.  
7. Taking the amount of currency as the sum to be divided, which was the only fund that I could control, the schools have received more than one fifth of it.

## Pedestrianism.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—Edward Payson Weston, the American pedestrian, started from the Royal Exchange, London, at five minutes after midnight this morning on a walking tour of 2,000 miles over the country roads of England, having undertaken to walk this distance and also to deliver fifty lectures in towns en route in one thousand hours.

## FROM WASHINGTON.

[SPECIAL TO THE ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.]  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 18.

After the close of this correspondence yesterday the House took up the bill for the payment of \$50,000 to the trustees of the Protestant Episcopal Seminary and High School, Alexandria, Va., for the rent of buildings during the war, and debated it at length. It differs somewhat from the William and Mary College bill, as that was for the destruction, and this is for the use of property, and it is thought that had a vote upon it been passed yesterday immediately after the speech of Mr. Kelley, of Pennsylvania, in favor of it, it would have passed. Its managers, however, allowed speeches intended to be in favor of it to be made which really did it harm. It will come up again next Friday, and as several northern republicans, notwithstanding its bad management, have expressed themselves as not opposed to it, it is possible that a sufficient number of northern democrats may be found enough to vote their real sentiments upon it, and thus secure its passage.

The committee of citizens which is urging the claims of the free bridge over the Potomac, just above the aqueduct and at or near the Three Sisters, met Senator Rollins, of the Senate District committee, to whom, as a sub-committee of one, the matter was referred. This morning, Messrs. Lacey, Thompson and Moore were present. The passage of the House bill for this purpose gives these in whose favor it was passed a standing such as allows them to treat with the lessees of the Alexandria Canal Aqueduct, and one of the propositions now before the Senate is to so amend the House bill as to make the aqueduct bridge the site of the proposed new bridge, the lessees of the aqueduct to be paid for the use of the pier upon which the new bridge should be built, and provision made for keeping the aqueduct in permanent repair. Nothing was done this morning but to listen to the remarks of the gentleman mentioned, but it is understood that Mr. Rollins is in favor of the proposed amendment.

The District Committee of the House also held a meeting this morning, which was numerously attended, for the purpose of considering the memorial of the tax payers of the District of Columbia for the passage of a bill to empower the Commissioners of that District to revise, correct, or amend special assessments upon the written application of any person whose real property in said District has been assessed, providing for an appeal to the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia from the action of the Commissioners in respect to such application by any person feeling aggrieved thereby, and for other purposes. Mr. Haydon, who was mainly instrumental in having passed the bill, is intended to repeal, was not present, having gone to Warrenton.

The Finance Committee of the Senate was also in session to-day and had under consideration the proposition to reduce the tax on tobacco. It was one o'clock before they could get a quorum and as reporters were excluded, its result had not transpired when this report closed.

The nomination of Gen. Logan for the Senate by the republican caucus of the House Legislature, equivalent to an election, seems to afford undisputed delight to the stalwart congressional delegation from that State. A turncoat democrat makes the most ultra radical, and for that reason the radical party delight to confer emoluments upon them.

The J. H. Maddox, who is connected with the Louisiana electoral vote, and who is alluded to by the witness, St. Martin, in his communications to the public, once owned a farm near Leesylvania, Md., and soon after the war lived in the house in Alexandria now occupied by Col. Sallis.

The Senate was not in session to-day, and the House took up the General Award bill as soon as the journal of yesterday's proceedings was read, and debated it at length.

The nomination of Mr. A. B. Hagner, of Annapolis, for the vacancy on the bench of the District of Columbia, will, it is understood, be confirmed at an early date. It seems to be satisfactory to his future associates and to the members of the bar.

It is reported that Gov. Harrison will be made Collector of the port of Philadelphia, and that the British Mission having been tendered in Mr. George William Curtis and declined, has now been offered to Dr. Palmer.

## The Hostile Cheyennes.

FORT ROBINSON, Neb., Jan. 18.—A courier from the scene of hostilities, 5 miles distant from the position held by the Cheyennes at the last writing, arrived here last evening with information to the effect that the savages had assumed the most impossible position of any of the many from which they recently held the troops at bay. It is said that a party of five soldiers, who were detached from the main body for the purpose of ascertaining the position held by the Indians, while encamped in this camp, unexpectedly found themselves within short rifle range of over half a score of Indians. The latter discharged a volley at the equal, killing Private Barber, of Co. H. 31 Cavalry, and capturing his carbine, pistol and ammunition. The comrades of Barber, though exposed to the fire of the Indians, used desperate efforts to prevent the Indians from obtaining either his remains or equipments, but without avail. Capt. Wesce's believes the Indians can not be dislodge from their present position without the sacrifice of a greater number of lives than he deems advisable and has, in consequence, dispatched Lieut. Dodd, of the 3rd Cavalry, to Red Cloud agency with a view to obtain the assistance of a dozen Sioux scouts, well versed in the mode of warfare usually adopted by Indians.

Newman and Chalk, outlaws, arrived here yesterday and report the loss of forty head of horses. The trail of the thieves indicates that they have been Indians, possibly Little Wolf's band.

Agent Irwin and Red Cloud arrived last night to learn particulars of late events. They report the excitement at Pine Ridge agency as intense.

## False Pretences.

SARATOGA, N. Y., Jan. 18.—An order of arrest has been issued for J. H. Farrington, a director and the business partner of J. S. Leske, the cashier of the First National Bank, on the complaint of a woman of whom he obtained a large sum of money a few days before the bank stopped, claiming that he was worth \$40,000.

## The Constitution.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—The American Consul at Portsmouth telegraphs to the London agent of the New York Associated Press that the United States ship Constitution is apparently unharmed. There is no damage whatever to the cargo. The Constitution will sail in three or four days for New York.

## Wisconsin Senator.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Jan. 18.—The Democratic members of the Legislature yesterday nominated Chief Justice Ryan as their candidate for the United States Senate. The following is the recorded 43rd ballot for United States Senator in the Republican caucus last night: Koyen 31; Carpenter 28; Howe 26; Sawyer 1; Judge Dixon 1; Williams 1.

## To Be Hung.

LITTLEVILLE, Ky., Jan. 18.—Robt. Anderson, on trial here for the murder of his wife, was sentenced to be hung. He was convicted on the testimony of his little son, who was present at the killing.

## VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

In the Senate, yesterday, bills and resolutions were introduced and referred for filing the times for holding the courts in the fourteenth judicial district; to inquire into the expediency of abolishing the office of county treasurer and devolving the duties on the sheriff, and to protect the cattle of the State from infectious diseases.

The bill to amend the criminal laws so as to abolish the administration of corporal punishment for petty larceny in counties where there are chain gangs, was discussed by Messrs. Brooke, Keiser, Massey and Blunt, who opposed a change in the present law, and Messrs. Paul and Johnson, who favored the bill, which was finally rejected.

The resolution looking to the repeal of the Moffett liquor law was laid on the table.

The House bill amending the charter of the city of Alexandria was passed.

The House bill to amend the law with reference to pay of commissioners of election was rejected.

Bills were passed to order the sale of personal property seized under the act of 1871, in certain cases, and to amend the Code in reference to the delivery of the list of delinquent lands to treasurers of counties.

In the House of Delegates bills, resolutions, &c., were introduced and referred, to amend the charter of the Valley Railroad Company; to provide for the disbursement of school moneys in counties; giving the consent of this State to the purchase by the government of the United States of land in Alexandria county, for the abatement of and the necessary approaches to the bridge proposed to be constructed across the Potomac River, &c.; also the expediency of amending the Moffett liquor law so as to expedite the abolishing the Moffett liquor law and providing for a specific license tax; to prescribe the times for holding the circuit courts in the sixteenth judicial circuit; to provide for a grand celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown; to amend the act limiting the indebtedness of cities and towns; to amend the charter of Danville; to amend the act for the protection of fish; to amend the Code in relation to the revocation of the powers of attorneys; to refer to Thomas R. Gregory, of Carroll county, a license tax regulating the granting of liquor licenses to the county of Loudoun.

Bills were reported from committees to amend the act for the protection of fish in the waters of the Commonwealth above tide-water; to amend the act for the protection of game with reference to killing and expiring deer, and to amend the act for the protection of game.

The Alleghany Railroad bill, providing for the sale of the James River and Kanawha Canal, was further postponed till Monday.

Mr. B. W. Lee presented a petition of citizens of New Kent county for a tax to be levied on dogs.

Bills were passed to amend an act to provide for the election of three commissioners of the revenue for Loudoun county; in relation to making and working roads in the county of Loudoun and to repeal sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33 of chapter 17, Acts 1874-75, and to amend sections 13 and 27 of said chapter, and to provide a law for the county of Loudoun, and to repeal an act relating to fences and to amend an act approved January 26, 1869, so far as it applies to the county of Loudoun, &c.; to amend the Code so as to discontinue with the August term of the Corporation Court of the city of Petersburg incorporate the Virginia Towing Company, and to amend the Code relating to mechanics' liens.

The bill to amend the Code in relation to the organization, discipline, and government of the guard of the penitentiary. (The bill proposes to reduce the pay of the guard from \$15 to \$10.) was recommitted.

The House bill to authorize the sale of certain church property belonging to the vestry of the Episcopal Protestant Episcopal Church, Shenandoah, and make a valid title to them, and to reinvest the proceeds of the sale, was ordered to be engrossed, as was also the bill to amend the marriage laws so as to permit Quakers and other societies which have no ordained ministers to solemnize marriages by the contracting parties taking the vows in the presence of six witnesses, &c.

Mr. White, of Hanover, having offered a bill to better the game laws, so that they would not bear unjustly upon the "poor and his neighbors," it was referred to the Committee on Game, of which Mr. Hunter is chairman. The committee reported a substitute for Mr. White's bill, which didn't suit Mr. White at all. At the earliest opportunity he got the floor and moved to dismiss the bill. His motion was carried, and the bill was dropped. A good-natured fight at Mr. Hunter, who thought "dear" Mr. White said, could "hear well enough when he had anything to accomplish." (Great laughter.) Mr. White declared that he preferred the present game laws to the one proposed. He carried his point. An appeal to the House to pass by the motion to dismiss, because Mr. Hunter was not in his seat, failed.

The bill was dismissed—yes, 70; nays, 18; the yeas and nays having been demanded by Mr. White. "To bring the members down to this point," Mr. White said, "I will, I think, the matter, moved, to reconsider, with the view of having the motion defeated." Rejected.

Subsequently, Mr. Hunter came in and desired to make an explanation, but found that the subject had passed from the control of the House.

ROBINSON OUTDORE.—There is a rumor in Culpeper who thinks he can improve on the telephone. He proposes to form a society, some thing like a reading club, the residence of each member to be supplied with a telephone, all connected by wire with a central office. In this office an operator will be stationed who will read from the latest books and periodicals for the entertainment and instruction of the various members. The importance of this improvement can hardly be overestimated. For instance: Early in the morning the operator, from his central office, will call up all the members, and while the family are at breakfast he will regale them with news from the morning papers. Then, while the ladies of the household are engaged with their sewing or other domestic duties, they may at the same time listen to the reading of the latest novel or the description of some new article of furniture apparel. Its numerous advantages may be seen at a glance, and we trust the inventor may lose no time in putting his idea into operation.

## Berlin Treaty.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 18.—The Agerce Russas say: The proposal to extend the functions of the Commission for the organization of Eastern Roumelia has received consent of all the powers and that such prolongation does not constitute a violation of the Treaty of Berlin. The Russian administration of the government of Eastern Roumelia is thus prolonged until the labor of the organization commission concludes.

## Verdict.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 18.—In the United States Circuit Court, Judge Bond presiding, in the case of Wm. Farewell and Thomas Cook, judges of elections, the seventh ward of this city, at the election held for members of Congress in November last, and indicted for obstructing, hindering and interfering with the U. S. Supervisor and a United States deputy marshal in the performance of their duty, namely, offending and being present at said election, the jury returned a verdict of guilty.

Sound Advice.—We conscientiously recommend our readers to try Keller's Roman Liniment in all cases of Rheumatism. For Sale by all Druggists.

## The Readjusters.

At the meeting of the readjusters of the Legislature, held on Thursday night, a notice of which appeared in the Gazette, Col. Fulkerson presided. The meeting was largely attended, upwards of seventy-five members answering to roll call. Mr. Barbour, chairman of the Executive Committee, in accordance with the resolution adopted at the previous meeting, submitted the following call for a convention:

To the People of Virginia: The convention which assembled in Richmond on the 8th day of August, 1877, adopted a platform that declared in favor of a readjustment of the obligations of the Commonwealth which should "bring the annual interest upon our entire indebtedness within the revenues of the State derived from the present rate of taxation, and do equal justice to all classes of the people," and which urged that "the selection of members of the Legislature by the people should effect this representatives with a view to their ability to deal with the difficulties presented by the financial condition of the Commonwealth," it being the manifest spirit and intent of that convention to remit the whole question of the debt to the people to be dealt with by them in the selection of representatives to the General Assembly, and by that branch of the State government to be created and disposed of definitively. In conformity therewith the readjusters of the General Assembly at the last session diligently devoted their time and earnest thought to the framing and perfection of such measures as would execute their understanding of the popular will in that respect, defining, and for the first time, the amount and condition of the public debt, and appropriating to its discharge the maximum amount possible to be appropriated from the revenues of the State under the existing rate of taxation, when every possible reform and reduction in the expenses of administration, compatible with a necessary efficiency, could have been instituted.

The result was the passage of a bill, known as the Barbour bill, wherein it is declared, as we now reiterate, "that the condition of the people of the Commonwealth is such as to render an increase of the rate of taxation upon property impracticable, and the General Assembly, conceding that its power to tax the property of the citizen must at all times be confined within the reasonable limits prescribed by what is the judgment of the General Assembly as to the ability of the citizen to pay without ruinous damage to his property and business, and that the present rate of taxation—to wit, fifty cents upon every hundred dollars assessed value of property—is the utmost limit to which the General Assembly should proceed in laying taxes; that the revenues of the Commonwealth with the present rate of taxation (which is the highest that should be imposed) will not enable the government to maintain the governmental organization by paying the necessary expenses of the Government under the most rigid system of economy, and to discharge its obligations to the people, and to pay the principal of the public debt; and that the preservation of the State government is absolutely necessary not only for the protection of the person and property of the citizen, but for the preservation of the rights of the creditors of the Commonwealth."

In conformity with such declaration and in the belief that the authority to levy taxes and control the collection and disbursement of revenues is an inalienable attribute of the sovereignty of the Commonwealth which the General Assembly must and can exercise but is powerless to elude, provision was made—first, for the maintenance of the State government; second, for the support of the public free schools, leaving the balance of the net income from all sources as the utmost the State is able to pay upon the public debt.

The will of the people, as thus expressed, was defeated by the exercise of the veto power of the Governor. A Governor, nevertheless, to these principles, and to the views expressed as to the ability of the people to endure a higher rate of taxation than fifty cents on the \$100 of property, and with so earnest desire for the earliest adjustment of the public debt in conformity with your views, and satisfied as we are that the people to their sovereign capacity must take measures to enforce their will in this respect, and in view of the fact that they are now confronted by an organized party, openly proclaimed, whose purpose, so far as declared, is to effect the election of members to the next General Assembly, whose qualifications shall be "wisdom, talents, and character," to vote whatever increase, however excessive, of your taxes may be necessary to pay the public debt in full, to cut down the appropriations to your free schools by the arbitrary destruction of the funds dedicated to them by the Constitution, and to raise among themselves whatever money may be necessary to conduct their crusade against the people.

It is believed to be our duty to advise, as we do earnestly advise, those of you who favor a restoration to the State government of its inalienable control of the revenue of the State; who favor the appropriation (with firm and unflinching fidelity) for public free school purposes of the whole fund so dedicated by the Constitution; and who favor a readjustment of the public debt upon the principles and within the limits prescribed by the Barbour bill, which has been herein set forth, to appoint delegates by county, district, and ward meetings, as you may see fit, to attend a convention of readjusters to be held in the city of Richmond on Tuesday the 18th day of February, 1879, that you may for your selves give direct expression to your views in this respect and take such measures as may seem to you proper to protect your impartial right and interest as citizens and tax payers of the Commonwealth.

At the conclusion of the reading of the address Mr. Payson Weston moved to reconsider the vote of the last meeting by which a convention had been called for the 18th. He held it too soon, and thought it inappropriate in view of the conference of creditors which was soon to be held.

Mr. Keyser also believed it an inappropriate time for a convention, and saw no necessity for it. He wished it deferred until after the conference with the creditors of the State had been concluded.

Mr. Barbour was opposed to reconsideration, and favored a convention at once.

Mr. Paul said that it was asking too much to wish them to retrace their steps. The Executive Committee had been directed to prepare an address to be submitted to this, an adjourned meeting. This address had been read, and should be acted upon without delay.

Speaker Allen said:—"If we, who have been sent here, fail to retrace the debt, I, for one, would be afraid to meet my people." He desired to know why any obstacle should be thrown in the way to arrive at this purpose. He favored a postponement of action which may result in defeating a settlement.

Mr. Fulkerson thought that if the call to be deferred, it would be forever deferred. In regard to the conference with creditors, he thought a convention of the readjusters from all over the State would give the cause more strength and do much good. The funders would see that the readjusters mean war by their organization.

Mr. Moffett opposed the call for a convention.

Mr. Harvie implored those present not to break up the organization. He strongly favored the call for a convention.

Mr. Spessard wanted a conference of the readjusters throughout the State to organize, in order to be able to confront the cause of "40 less 1." He thought the convention could do no harm, and might do a great deal of good.

Mr. Ficklen said he came from a sick bed to take part in this important meeting. He opposed the motion to reconsider, and favored the convention.

Mr. Keyser believed it would be unwise and in expedient to call a convention.

Mr. Fulkerson said that if he found a majority of the readjusters against him on certain views he would yield. He wanted to know what was the matter to night. The only difference between the readjusters, he thought, was one of policy.

Short speeches were also made by Messrs. Hunkel and Carter, the former favoring and the latter opposing the motion to reconsider.

The conference refused to reconsider; yeas, 16; nays, 40; as follows:—

Yeas—Messrs. Massey, Adams, Bernard, Dances, Fowler, Fry, Fulton, Goode, R. N. Harrison, Hunkel, Keyser, McMillan, Moffett, Oglesby, Popham, Wright—16.

Nays—Messrs. Bass, Chiles, Abram, Fulkerson, Norton, Paul, Powell, Slem, Ward, Wood, Akers, Barbour, John R. Carter, Chase, Coleman, Crank, Davidson, Dickerson, Evans, Fancher, Ficklen, Frazier, Fulkerson, Hamilton, H. H. Harrison, Harvie, James, Kelly, Lady, Lee, McCall, McDonald, McDaniel, J. H. Smith, Spessard, A. J. Taylor, Joseph Walker, Walsh, S. J. White, Witten, Young—40.

The address was then unanimously adopted. The call was then changed in the address from the 18th of February to the 25th of February.

## NEWS OF THE DAY.

The Mobile and Montgomery Railroad Company have declared a semi-annual dividend of 2 1/2 per cent.

Yakob Khan prevented the Kobistat chief from plundering Dabul before the arrival of the British forces now marching thither.

Several additional bibliographies are to be received by the Pope in the United States, as well as a new hierarchy, different from the present one.

A dispute about a cab fare is front of a London bank, yesterday, created a commotion which resulted by mistake in a fire on a bank.

Machinery Hall, on the Centennial exhibition grounds, Philadelphia, is to be sold in March, February 8.

The reputation of the Florida Legislature last night nominated Gen. Logan for United States Senator as the best bidder. The vote stood Logan 80, Osborn 25.

The President nominated to the Senate yesterday, Alexander B. Hagner, of Annapolis, Md., to be an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia.

The trial of Samuel A. Sherman, at Esposito, on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, for the murder of William B. Walker, of Pocomoke, in 1862, resulted yesterday in a verdict of guilty, two days before the jury.

The official newspaper of the province of Havana, Cuba, says Captain General Martinez Campos has put out of his own pocket \$10,000 in paper currency to be distributed among the various charitable societies on the King's birthday, the 23rd inst.

The Expressman's Mutual Benefit Association, which has been in session for several days in New York, adjourned to meet in Cincinnati on the third Wednesday in January next. Mr. S. M. Shumaker, of Baltimore, was elected president.

## Shooting Affair.

DEADWOOD, D. T., Jan. 18.—A duelling yesterday over disputed claims between the Home State and Prince of the West Mining companies, resulted in the shooting of Alex. Frankenburg. The wound is not serious. The sheriff and a posse were proceeding to the spot and to further trouble is anticipated.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—Loan, increase, \$2,450,000; specie, decrease, \$1,617,800; lead, increase, \$1,910,400; deposits, increase, \$3,108,400; circulation, decrease, \$17,449; reserve, increase, \$2,015,500. The bank now has \$14,141,